

respect for the illness is required. In addition to these bits of advice, there are also suggestions as to handling the patient's family, especially her mother (keep them separated!). Then, item by item, with innumerable statistical tables, the criteria for assessing improvement and the factors affecting the outcome are presented. The clinician will find that he now has the possibility of not only a direct therapeutic program but some ability to predict outcome.

Throughout the book, Dally views anorexia nervosa not only as a specific syndrome but a quite serious one, especially if it occurs in youth, for it definitely interferes with the patient's subsequent physical and emotional maturation.

During the reading one often feels the presentation is a bit too precious and certainly borders on the compulsive, especially when the statistical tables begin to analyze the birth order of siblings, the position of the siblings in the family in each subgroup, and the attitudes toward the presence of a sister, etc. However, later on these facts become important, at least statistically, in the predictions as to outcome. For example, a pronounced degree of jealousy toward a younger sister is an ominous sign prognostically.

The practical clinician looking for an orientation in his approach to this baffling problem will be given courage and conviction by brief study of this book. He will at last have courage in the diagnosis of his patient and certainly be able to fit her into the subcategory and find a treatment program applicable to it. The text of the book is only 123 pages and the purchase of it and study recommended. As far as understanding the illness syndrome is concerned, the clinician will have little reward. However, he now has a purchase point for making observations that may lead to further elucidation. The scholar will find a most complete bibliography (232 articles). The volume itself is attractively bound and the print clearly readable.

H. HARRISON SADLER, M.D.

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THE MYCOPLASMATALES AND THE L-PHASE OF BACTERIA—Editor: Leonard Hayflick, Department of Medical Microbiology, Stanford University School of Medicine, Stanford, California; foreword by: Emmy Klieneberger-Nobel, Appleton-Century-Crofts, Educational Division, Meredith Corporation, 440 Park Avenue South, New York, New York (10016), 1969; 731 pages, \$30.00.

This book is a magnificent, incisive compilation of the explosion of information concerning these micro-organisms which has occurred during the past decade. Dr. Hayflick has gathered together a distinguished, international group of authors. These collaborators, all of them leaders in their especial niches in this field, have developed a superb text which will serve as a definitive reference for established and aspiring mycoplasmologists.

This is not a book for the practicing clinician. It goes far beyond the depth of interest of the clinician, with the exception of the concluding four chapters which are devoted to the mycoplasma and L-phase flora of man. Chapter 24 is written by Drs. Grayston, Foy and Kenny of the University of Washington and it is an excellent and exciting treatise on the epidemiology of human Mycoplasma infection of the lung.

The major substance of the book deals with the fundamental biology of mycoplasma and L-phase bacteria. The book also develops in a thorough, well-organized fashion the classification of these bacteria, and then in an elaborate sequence unfolds their serology, immunochemistry, cellular morphology, membrane characteristics, ultrastructure and biophysical attributes. These sections are well-organized with explicit subtitles provided for the reader

at the beginning of and throughout each chapter. Many of the references are as recent as 1968.

This highly sophisticated book moves on to consider the genomic material, protein synthesis, lipid chemistry, and general metabolism of mycoplasmas. There is some overlap in these basic sections but appropriate for the fundamental insight for which the reader is searching.

Prior to the concluding chapters of human disease, there is an authoritative section which delineates in four separate chapters of basic and clinical biology of mycoplasma infections in cattle, sheep, goats, mice, swine and avian hosts. As is frequently true in microbiology, the first surge of provocative speculation about important host-microbial relationships and the mycoplasma developed as a consequence of observations in these vertebrate species.

A most delightful chronological overview and orientation of the reader to the biologic similarities of mycoplasma and L-phase of bacteria, and yet their apparently different source of origin, is rendered by Dr. Emmy Klieneberger-Nobel of the Lister Institute. In preface, she transmits very gracefully the concept that these two groups of micro-organisms should be considered in similar biologic light, yet the weight of the book is devoted appropriately to the mycoplasma for which we have so much more abundant evidence of significance for mankind.

JOSEPH W. ST. GEME, JR., M.D.

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A SYNOPSIS OF CONTEMPORARY PSYCHIATRY—Fourth Edition—George A. Ulett, B.A., M.S., M.D., Ph.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychiatry at the Missouri Institute of Psychiatry (St. Louis), University of Missouri School of Medicine; Visiting Professor of Psychiatry, University of Istanbul, Turkey; Director, Division of Mental Diseases for the State of Missouri, Jefferson City; and D. Wells Goodrich, M.D., Professor of Psychiatry, Montefiore Hospital and Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York City. The C. V. Mosby Company, 3207 Washington Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri (63103), 1969. 340 pages, \$9.50.

The new edition of this pocket size synopsis of psychiatry continues to be a concise, clearly written, eclectic and balanced presentation of contemporary psychiatry. Considering its brevity, it is surprisingly comprehensive. This edition covers several new topics of current interest, such as the community psychiatry movement and includes the new diagnostic nomenclature of psychiatric disorders. Throughout, the emphasis is on practical rather than theoretical coverage, and there are suggested readings at the end of each section for those who require additional information. The book will be most useful to those who need a rapid introduction to the subject matter of psychiatry, such as medical students, interns or nurses who are rotating through the psychiatric clinic or hospital, and residents or other mental health workers exposed to the field for the first time. That this synopsis is meeting a real need is demonstrated by the fact that it is now in its fourth edition since 1956.

DON E. FLINN, M.D.

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THE PEDIATRIC PATIENT 1969—Coordinating Editor, Sarah R. Gustafson, Ph.D., Consultant, Hoffman-La Roche, Inc., Nutley, New Jersey; Consulting Editor, David Baird Coursin, M.D., Director of Research, Research Institute, St. Joseph's Hospital, Lancaster, Pa. J. B. Lippincott Company, East Washington Square, Philadelphia, Pa. (19105), 1970. 287 pages, 100 figures, 51 tables, \$8.00.

This annual volume surveying recent progress in Pediatrics is once again sponsored by the Hoffman-La Roche Company and edited by Sarah Gustafson and David Coursin. The 1969 volume has six chapters covering five areas of interest to practicing pediatricians and covering a variety of subjects in the sixth chapter called "Mis-